

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 12, 2006. Claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 31 to 33, 35, 36, 39, 40 and 42 are pending in the application, with Claims 23 and 34 having been cancelled herein. Claims 21, 32 and 42 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

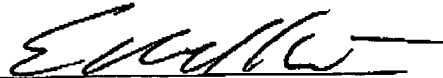
Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 23 and 34 would be allowable if they are rewritten into independent form. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections set forth below, and merely to obtain the earliest possible allowance of the allowable subject matter, Applicant has chosen to incorporate the allowable subject matter into each of the independent claims. Accordingly, independent Claims 21, 32 and 42, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 31 to 33, 35, 36, 39, 40 and 42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,665,082 (Takeoka) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,815,283 (Watanabe). Again, without conceding the correctness of the rejections, they are nonetheless believed to be obviated by the incorporation of allowable subject matter into each of the independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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